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Title: Regarding early payment of the statutory dues of the workers of Central Public Sector Undertakings.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : Sir, thousands of employees and workers of the Central Public Sector Undertakings have not been paid their statutory dues--gratuity, provident fund as well as salaries. The workers are not getting their salaries for months together in Hindustan Cables, Hindustan Steel Construction Corporation, National Projects Construction Corporation and in a number of other such public sector undertakings. As a result of that, a number of workers have died of starvation also.

The total statutory dues to the workers and the employees will be about Rs.2,000 crore.

The statutory dues like gratuity, provident fund and salaries are not being paid to the workers. The hon. Minister of Labour is here. He should respond to this.

The workers who have retired and those who are still working are not getting their salaries. The workers who were retired have not yet received their gratuity and other statutory dues like provident fund amount. Even workers who were retired three years ago are yet to receive their gratuity and provident fund. I urge upon the Government to take immediate measures so that the workers of Central public sector undertakings who are not getting their salaries in a number of units and workers who were retired in the past three years get their statutory dues like gratuity, provident fund and salaries without further delay. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: I am sure, the hon. Minister of Parliamentary Affairs would bring it to the notice of the Minister concerned.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : The Minister of Labour is here. He should respond. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Everybody who has given a notice would be allowed to speak if you please co-operate.